



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Public Instruction

Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

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September 22, 2004

To the Citizens of Wisconsin:

It is my privilege to present the Department of Public Instruction's education agenda for the 2005-07 biennium. These proposals represent an extension and continuation of my *New Wisconsin Promise* to ensure a quality education for every child. I am submitting my proposals for the next biennial budget to fulfill our *New Wisconsin Promise*, to make our state economically competitive, and to make our future prosperous and secure. We all know there is no better investment to be made than in the education of our children.

This is a budget that will provide property tax relief and a safety net for schools. It addresses the needs of our students with special needs and those with limited English proficiency. It implements my *Advancing Rural Wisconsin* initiative to support our rural schools. It strengthens our SAGE class-size reduction program. It enhances our statewide quality teacher efforts and makes investments in early childhood education and our vital public libraries.

Together, we know there is nothing more important than investing in our schools and fulfilling our promise to our children and our future. Our state of education will remain strong if we fulfill our *New Wisconsin Promise* to the students throughout our state. Give the people of Wisconsin the choice, and they will demand responsibility, discover opportunity, and fulfill the promise, because they recognize we are a community, and we are all in this together.

We at the department look forward to working with you, the Governor, and the Legislature over the next year to build on our successes and truly ensure a quality education for every child.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Burmaster  
State Superintendent

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